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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/259,427	02/26/1999	MARSHALL A. SLOO	27080	5283

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, NGA B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2164

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AG

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/259,427

Applicant(s)
Sloo

Examiner
Nga B. Nguyen

Art Unit
2164



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Feb 26, 1999
- 2a) ☒ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirements.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on _____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 16) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 17) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). _____ 20) ☐ Other: _____

Art Unit: 2164

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is the answer to the Amendment filed on December 26, 2001, which paper has been placed of record in the file.
2. Claim 1-20 are pending in this application.

Response to Arguments/Amendment

3. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-16 have been considered but are moot in view of the new grounds of the rejection.
4. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new grounds of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Art Unit: 2164

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Jensen, U.S. Patent No. 6,0065,000 in view of Official notice taken by Examiner.

Regarding to claims 1 and 8, Jensen discloses a computer-based method of collecting and processing incidents observed by witnesses comprising the steps of: receiving into a computer system an incident report directly from a witness who observed an incident; and prompting the witness to provide certain types of information about the incident (column 4, lines 1-16 and figure 3).

Jensen does not disclose the witness selects an authority to whom the incident report should be sent, wherein the authority is selected based at least in part on information provided by the witness and sending the incident report to the selected authority so that the authority can respond to the incident report. Official notice is taken selecting the person to whom the information should be sent based on the contain of information and sending the information to the selected persons via such as electronic mail are old and well-known in the art. For example, in the electronic mail system, the sender accesses the message creation and transmission window, the

Art Unit: 2164

message sender then created the message, the message sender then accesses the directory such as the address book and selects the recipient to whom the message should be sent based on the information contain in the message. Thus, the process of sending an electronic mail from a sender to the selected recipient is well-known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the features above with Jensen's for the purpose of sending the information to the selected persons.

Regarding to claim 2, Jensen does not disclose the incident being selected from the group consisting of a criminal act, a legal violation, a sale of a defective product, and a rendering of an unsatisfactory service. Official notice is taken that it is obvious to modify the Jensen's incident by the incident committed by an offender such as a criminal act, a legal violation, etc..., so the process of collecting information directly from a user will work the same for Jensen.

Regarding to claim 3, Jensen further discloses prompting the witness to enter into the incident report identification information identifying the injurer (figures 3, 4A, 4B).

Regarding to claims 4-5, Jensen further discloses receiving additional identification information identifying the injurer and adding the additional identification information to the incident report; the additional information being obtained by searching files accessible by the computer system based on the identification information entered by the witness (column 5, lines 1-16).

Regarding to claim 6, Jensen does not directly the additional identification information being obtained by receiving the additional identification information from the authority based on

Art Unit: 2164

the identification information entered by the witness. However, Jensen does teach when the user accesses the system database, he/she need to sign-on by provide sign-in code and password (see figures 16-17), and then the user can create or modify the system database (see column 12, lines 49-65). Therefore, it is obvious in Jensen's to receive additional identification information from the authority based on the identification information entered by the witness. In Jensen, the authorized user can provide additional identification information to the select specific records, thus modifying the select specific records.

Regarding to claim 7, Jensen does not disclose the authority is automatically selected by the computer system based on information entered into the incident report by the witness. Official notice is taken that the computer system is automatically selecting the person or the data based on the information the user entered is well known in the art. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one with ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include the feature above with Jensen's for the purpose of sending the information to the person selected by the computer system.

Regarding to claims 9-10, Jensen further discloses receiving into the computer system an action report from the authority explaining the action the authority took in response to the incident report and storing the action report along with the incident report in a file accessible by the computer system (figure 10, item 72).

Regarding to claim 11, Jensen further discloses incident reports from a plurality of different witnesses are received in the computer system (figure 9).

Art Unit: 2164

Regarding to claims 12-14, Jensen further discloses storing the incident reports in a searchable database, permitting persons to access the searchable database to view the incident reports, and receiving additional incident information from the persons that access the searchable database and adding the additional incident information to the incident reports to assist the authorities (column 4, line 40-column 5, line 28).

Regarding to claims 15-16, Jensen further discloses sending the additional identification information to the witness and prompting the witness to update the incident report based on the additional identification information (column 5, lines 1-28).

Claims 17-20 contain the same limitations found in claims 1, 7, 9, and 12 discussed above, therefore are rejected by the same rationale.

Conclusion

7. Claims **1-16** are rejected.

8. The prior arts made of records are supported for Official notice is taken by Examiner:

Horovitz et al. (US 5,812,795) discloses the method of automatic addressing of messages and message components of different media.

Costin (US 6,178,413) discloses the database program with automatic creation of user features.

Art Unit: 2164

9. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner Nga B. Nguyen, whose telephone number is (703)306-2901. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 7:30 AM-5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vincent A. Millin, can be reached on (703)308-1065.

10. **Any response to this action should be mail to:**

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

c/o Technology Center 2700

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 308-9051, (for formal communications intended for entry)

or:

(703) 308-5397 (for informal or draft communications, please label

"PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II,

2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington.

VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).

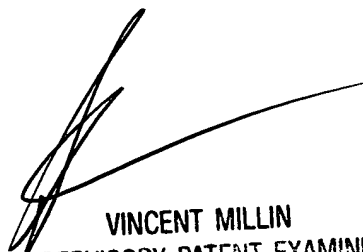
Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-3900.

Application/Control Number: 09/259,427

Page 8

Art Unit: 2164

Nga B. Nguyen
March 5, 2002



VINCENT MILLIN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2100